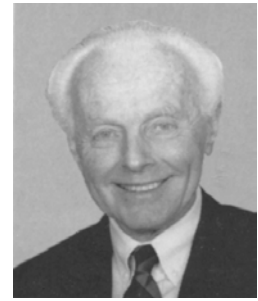


SAF/LLZ (Legislative Research Team)

LANTOS, Tom (Democrat)  
Representative, 12th District, California  
Elected 1980 to 97th Congress  
Reelected to succeeding Congresses



## BACKGROUND

Born: Budapest, Hungary - 1 February 1928  
Home: San Mateo, California  
Marital status: Married (Annette) - 2 children  
Religion: Jewish  
Education: U. of Washington, B.A. 1949, M.A. 1950; U. of Calif, Berkeley, Ph.D., 1953  
Military: None  
Profession: Economist

Political: Economics-Foreign Policy Adviser to Sen Biden (D-DE) 1978-9; defeated incumbent Rep Royer (R) in the 1980 election. Reelected in 2000 with 74%, and in 2002 with 68% of the vote.

Rep Lantos, a liberal, has long advocated a more active role for the US in the former Yugoslavia and was one of the first to call for a tough U.S. response to Serbia's aggression Strong backer of Israel. In the 106th Congress, strongly opposed normal trade relations with China. Said he was pleased to be present for the signing of the document that made Hungary a part of NATO. Supported a resolution which made available defense articles that he said are necessary for the island of Taiwan's military forces.

In the 107th Congress, expressed support for a resolution calling for an end to the violence in the Mideast and reaffirming the friendship between the US and Israel. Cosponsored a resolution to withhold \$244 million in UN arrears because of the UN decision to oust the US from the human rights panel. Called for Russia's suspension from the G-8, an organization of leading industrial nations, until the government in Moscow restores press freedom and respect for human rights. Sponsored legislation to authorize money for training and counseling for survivors of landmines. Said he was pleased that the State Dept authorization included funding for upgrading embassy security and improving conditions for the diplomatic corps. In the 108th Congress cosponsored a provision requiring federal agencies to make up the difference between civil service and military pay for Guardsmen and Reservists activated for more than 30 days. Signed a letter in May 2003 seeking a GAO assessment of US post-conflict efforts in Iraq related to security, relief programs, economic development, procurement and political operations. Called for economic sanctions against the government of Myanmar for various human rights violations including the arrest of pro-democracy movement members. Additional: Left Hungary in 1947. Was in the underground in WWII. He and his wife owe their lives to Raoul Wallenberg, the Swedish diplomat who saved thousands of Hungarian Jews from Nazi extermination. Prior to the 108th Congress represented Pillar Point AFS. Member - Congressional Human Rights Caucus - Co-Chairman; NATO Parliamentary Assembly; Army Caucus; Progressive Caucus  
AF Bases: None

## COMMITTEES

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS -- Ranking minority (Ex officio member of all subcommittees)

GOVERNMENT REFORM -- Subcs on: National Security, Emerging Threats and International Relations; Energy Policy, Natural Resources, and Regulatory Affairs